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W.L. Treadwell to T.L. Treadwell, 15 June 1849

William Loundes Treadwell

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Norwood Stanley Co. N.C. June 13th 49

Dear father.

I should have answered your letter sooner, but for circumstances over which, I have no control; Having left your letter at Chapel Hill, I do not remember the exact time that I received it, but know that it was some two or three weeks ago — The circumstances to which I alluded above, were as follows. First, that I received your letter during the week of examination, at which time I was too busy to do almost anything. Secondly, the next week being commencement I was induced to put off writing until it was over — And lastly, that as I was coming out to uncle Ichus, I could perhaps write you a more interesting letter. I have no doubt, but that you have been anxious and felt deep concern about the money that you sent and I confess and ask pardon for keeping you so long in suspense; I received both of your letters with the different parts of the bills amounting to one hundred and fifty dollars, and also an additional five dollar bill, which was not cut into, in due time, I disposed of as much of it as was necessary and have the rest with me

I left Chapel Hill on Friday last and arrived at Uncle John's on the last Monday where I was received and welcomed with all the demonstrations of joy and friendship. I have witnessed a good many things, but never did I have such feelings as when I met with an old and revered Uncle. The old man was not at home when I arrived, but returned that evening: for the gratification of the family I was introduced to the old gentleman under a fictitious name, but all in vain, for no sooner had he taken me by the hand until he exclaimed "is this my nephew? is this my nephew?" repeating with more emphasis, a relic of Brother Jim. and without waiting for an answer, threw his arms around me and wept like a child, for some time everything was still, and silence reigned supreme, at length the silence was broken by exclamations of joy, not for show, not such as proceed from an hypocritical heart, but such as are only known to, and proceed from an heart that possesses with true affection. I found the family well with the exception of Uncle John and he is much better than he has been for some time. He has eight children, three daughters and five sons, his two eldest are daughters and such that no father could be ashamed of, but another boast, not an account of beautiful faces, although ^{they} possess them, not an account of their external appearance, although it stands unrivaled; but because they possess what is of more importance, an amiable disposition and

Minds well cultivated for girls of their age.
His boys are small but sprightly. His step children
one as perhaps you are aware all married, and settled
two within about twelve miles and the other (a daughter,
the youngest) within about three miles - They were all
here together this week with their husbands and wives
so that you can imagine how I have been spending
my time in a nest of friends and relatives.

Uncle John

owns about twenty two negroes, twelve of which are able
to work, and a pretty good farm with a very com-
fortable dwelling, good out houses, first rate stables
&c. &c. upon the whole he is as well fixed as he could
wish, with the single exception, that his children
suffer in time to come, for the want of convenient
schools and good society. The family associates with
but few, not from Aristocratic notions, but from
the circumstance, that there are but few that are
fit to associate with - Aunt Laura is an ex-
ceedingly smart, domestic, kind and affectionate lady
in every sense of the word, no husband can claim,
no children can appreciate the value of such a wife
and mother.

In accordance with your wishes, I have
concluded to study Law during my senior year and at
your request remain five months longer, which I think
will be both practicable and economical. Give my
love to all the family and relations - I would be glad if you
^{your affectionate son} would drop me a few lines whilst I remain here. W. L. Treadwell

Norwood N.B.
June 15th

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T. S. Trudwell Esq.
Samar
Marshall Co.
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